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Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 2nd meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 26 September 2001, at 4 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Effah-Apenteng (Ghana)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 4.10 p.m.

Tribute to the memory of Ana María Moglia, representative of Argentina in the Fifth Committee

1. **The Chairman** and **Mr. Kendall** (Argentina) paid tribute to the memory of Ana María Moglia.

2. *At the invitation of the Chairman, the members of the Committee observed a minute of silence.*

Election of the Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur

3. **The Chairman** said that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/163, the Committee must elect three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. He would take it that the Committee wished to elect as Vice-Chairmen Mr. Bhattarai (Nepal), Mr. Ivashchenko (Ukraine) and Mr. Orr (Canada), who had been endorsed by the Group of Asian States, the Group of Eastern European States and the Group of Western European and Other States respectively.

4. *Mr. Bhattarai (Nepal), Mr. Ivashchenko (Ukraine) and Mr. Orr (Canada) were elected Vice-Chairmen by acclamation.*

5. **The Chairman** said that, since there were no other nominations for the post of Rapporteur, he would take it that the Committee wished to elect as Rapporteur Mr. Wins (Uruguay), who had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

6. *Mr. Wins (Uruguay) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.*

Statement by the outgoing Chairman of the Fifth Committee

7. **Mr. Rosenthal** (Guatemala) said that the Fifth Committee, as the Main Committee responsible for administrative and budgetary issues, was one of the most important bodies in the intergovernmental machinery of the United Nations. It also had one of the heaviest workloads and was the only Main Committee to meet throughout each session of the General Assembly. The Committee's exemplary working methods, its collegial spirit and pragmatism and the participatory fashion in which its work was conducted ensured that its long working hours were productive, rather than being a mere ritual.

8. The taking of decisions by consensus required time, effort and flexibility, but the Committee had shown, during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, that such a process could work, adopting a large number of decisions, including some on controversial issues. He expressed appreciation, in that connection, to the members of the Committee as well as to the members of the Bureau and the staff of the Secretariat for their support.

9. **Ms. Daes** (Greece), speaking on behalf of the Group of Western European and Other States, **Mr. Albrecht** (South Africa), speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, and **Mr. Kang** Jeong-sik (Republic of Korea), speaking on behalf of the Group of Asian States, paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.